Kleindienst Plans Trip to Europe

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Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst, one of President Nixon's Cabinet members whose future is most in doubt, will leave Sunday on a two-week tour of European capitals to discuss international narcotics problems.

He will spend next week in London, where, among other appointments, he will be the guest of honor at a luncheon given by the Lord Chief Justice of Great Britain.

Kleindienst is then scheduled to spend several days each in Paris, Madrid and Bonn, returning to Washington after Thanksgiving.

The Attorney General said yesterday that he considers drug problems "one of the most important areas for concerted activity" in international law enforcement.

In his discussions with British, French, Spanish and West German officials—most of them in agencies comparable to the U.S. Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs—he will seek to expand "cooperative efforts between governments," Kleindienst said.

Justice Department sources said yesterday that Kleindienst's trip was hastily arranged, and that in some instances he will merely be sitting in on meetings already scheduled by BNDD officials. No member of the Attorney General's staff will accompany him.

By the time of Kleindienst's return, President Nixon is expected to have decided on the lineup of his Cabinet for his second term in the White House.

Along with other Cabinet officers, the Attorney General has submitted his letter of resignation.

His may be taken more seriously than most.

The Washington Post reported last month that Kleindienst whose nomination was the focus of marathon Senate Judiciary Committee hearing last spring, may be dropped as part of a White House effort to change the image of the Justice Department.

Kleindienst told intimates that he would seek an early post-election meeting with the President to clarify his status. But other than Wednesday's Cabinet meeting, he is not believed to have seen Mr. Nixon privately yet.

Other political appointees in the Justice Department have also submitted their pro forma letters of resignation. Several of the assistant attorneys general were new this year, and their fate depends largely on that of Kleindienst.